

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /066 W

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O 032135Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8465

AMCONSUL MILAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 2491

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BR, AR, PINT, PFOR

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES ON ALLEGED CONTACT BETWEEN
AMBASSADOR AND ARGENTINE PLOTTER

1. WIDELY READ JORNAL DO BRASIL APRIL 3 CARRIED TEXT OF ALLEGED
SECRET ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT CONCERNING ANTI-ARGENTINE
GOVERNMENT PLOT IN WHICH LANUSSE AND FRONDIZI REPORTEDLY INVOLVED.
DOCUMENT ALSO STATED THAT ON MARCH 3 AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO
BRAZIL MET IN SAO PAULO WITH RETIRED ARGENTINE GENERAL ALCIDEZ
LOPE AUFRANC, WHO ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN PLOT.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, RICHARD O'MARA, RIO CORRESPONDENT
FOR BALTIMORE SUN, WAS TOLD THAT AMBASSADOR HAD NEVER MET
LOPEZ AUFRANC IN SAO PAULO OR ANYWHERE ELSE. PRESS ATTACHE
SUBSEQUENTLY GAVE CATEGORIC DENIAL TO DAVID VIDAL OF AP, BOB
SULLIVAN OF UPI, AND BRUCE HANDLER OF WASHINGTON POST. (AM-
BASSADOR WAS, IN FACT, IN SAO PAULO, MARCH 3-5 FOR OPENING
OF PRINT-PAK TRADE FAIR AND DELIVERY OF SPEECH TO AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THERE.)

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3. BECAUSE CORRESPONDENT IN BUENOS AIRES OF IMPORTANT JORNAL DO

BRASIL, WALDER DE GOES, HAS JUST BEEN EXPELLED FROM ARGENTINA IN CONNECTION WITH HIS HANDLING OF PLOT STORY, JORNAL GAVE IT EXTENSIVE COVERAGE APRIL 3, INCLUDING EDITORIAL AND TEXTS OF MESSAGE FROM JORNAL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT NASCIMENTO BRITO TO IAPA PRESIDENT JULIO DE MESQUITA NETO (CHIEF OF PRESTIGIOUS O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO), AND OF MESQUITA'S PROTEST TO ARGENTINE INTERIOR MINISTER ROCAMORA. EDITORIAL, STANDING UP FOR FREE PRESS, RIDICULED ALLEGED GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION THAT GOES HAD SOUGHT INTERVIEW WITH LANUSSE; NASCIMENTO BRITO'S MESSAGE SAID GOES EXPELLED ALLEGEDLY FOR HAVING PUBLISHED "SCANDALOUS" INFORMATION, ALTHOUGH NEW YORK TIMES CARRIED SAME STORY. MESQUITA'S MESSAGE CONCLUDED "THE EXTREME MEASURE (OF GOES' EXPULSION), TAKEN BEFORE ANY CLARIFICATION OF THE ACCUSATION, CAN ONLY HAVE AS JUSTIFICATION THE INTIMIDATION OF THE FREE EXERCISE OF THE PROFESSION OF JOURNALIST".

4. NASCIMENTO BRITO'S MESSAGE ALSO SAID THAT GOES "BASED HIMSELF ON A SECRET DOCUMENT TO WHICH HE HAD ACCESS THROUGH AN AUTHORIZED SOURCE, THE SAME WAY AS THE CORRESPONDENTS OF TIME, THE NEW YORK TIMES, THE FINANCIAL TIMES, AND CORRIERE DELLA SERA".
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DOCUMENTS, PLOTS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL02491
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750115-1198
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750486/aaaadawm.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES ON ALLEGED CONTACT BETWEEN AMBASSADOR AND ARGENTINE PLOTTER
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PINS, BR, AR, JORNAL DO BRASIL
To: STATE MILAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006